



Olympia Office:
107 Irv Newhouse Building
PO Box 40441
Olympia, WA 98504-0441
(360) 786-7680
FAX: (360) 786-7819

Washington State Senate

Senator Jim Horn
41st Legislative District

Hotline: 1-800-562-6000
TTY: 1-800-635-9993
e-mail: horn_ji@leg.wa.gov

Residence:
9507 SE 61st Place
Mercer Island, WA 98040
(206) 232-2347

April 2001

Thanks for responding to my 2001 survey. As always, I appreciate the opinions that you and other 41st District residents have on various issues. It provides me with a valuable cross-check to my opinions on various issues. Here are the results from that survey. If you have any questions or comments about the results, please contact me.

1. Which of the following issues do you think are the most important for the Legislature to address during the 2001 session? (Rankings are based on a weighted average.)

1st Transportation	5th Drugs and crime	8th Environment
2nd Public schools	6th Growth management	9th Colleges and universities
3rd Health care	7th Tax cuts	10th Social issues
4th Economy and jobs		

Voter initiatives

2. Please pick the choice that best describes why you voted for or against Initiative 722, which caps the growth of property taxes at 2 percent per year and repeals local government tax increases.

I wanted property tax relief	49 percent
Government needs additional revenue	15 percent
Assessed property values should rise with the market	12 percent
Local governments shouldn't have raised taxes just before I-695 passed	12 percent
None of the above	12 percent

Budget

3. What should the Legislature do in light of increased spending requirements this year?

Reduce spending for other state services and keep overall state spending at about the same rate as it has been over the past few years	56 percent
Spend some of the state budget surplus and Emergency Reserve Fund to pay for the increased spending	28 percent
Raise taxes to provide more revenue for the state's new spending needs while maintaining spending levels for other important state services	16 percent

4. Passage of I-732 will result in teachers receiving automatic salary increases.

Should all state employees receive similar salary increases?

No	87 percent
Yes	13 percent

5. Should we keep the state spending limit that was created when Washington voters passed Initiative 601 in 1993?

Yes 75 percent
No 25 percent

Education

6. School districts across the state use the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) exam to test fourth, seventh and 10th grade students in math, reading, writing and listening skills. Should individual students, their parents and their teaches be allowed to see the results of the Washington Assessment on Student Learning (WASL)?

Yes 96 percent
No 4 percent

7. Currently, Washington uses a statewide salary schedule to pay teachers. Thus, a teacher living in Mercer Island is paid the same amount as one living in Ephrata. Some argue that other salary options should be used. What do you think?

A cost-of-living adjustment should be provided for teachers in high-cost areas 55 percent
The policy of a uniform statewide schedule salary which recognizes only
seniority and education should be maintained 25 percent
A housing allowance should be given to teachers who live in high-cost areas 20 percent

8. Do you think that people in our area have adequate access to higher education?

Yes 93 percent
No 7 percent

Transportation

9. The state Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation made its recommendations on how to improve transportation problems in Washington. From what you have learned of the commission's recommendations, what do you think of them?

Don't know 42 percent
Mildly support them 20 percent
Strongly oppose them 16 percent
Strongly support them 12 percent
Mildly oppose them 10 percent

10. Should the state pay for regional transportation projects or should regions pay for some of their own projects?

Regions should pay some of the costs 83 percent
State should pay all of the costs 17 percent

11. If gas prices increase because of taxes, do you prefer a gas tax increase that is protected by the state's 18th Amendment to address highway needs only or do you prefer a sales tax on gas for more general and flexible use?

Gas tax increase 46 percent
Strongly oppose any tax increase involving gas 41 percent
Sales tax on gas 13 percent

12. Although Washington voters eliminated the motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) through passage of Initiative 695 in 1999, the Regional Transit Authority (now called Sound Transit) is permitted to collect a special, local MVET in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties to help pay for Sound Transit. Should the portion of the MVET being collected by Sound Transit be kept or eliminated?

It should be kept 52 percent
It should be eliminated 48 percent

13. Since being established by Puget Sound voters, Sound Transit has proposed several changes to its original 10-year program, such as an extra \$1 billion for converting the bus tunnel in Seattle for light-rail use. Should we be allowed to vote on Sound Transit's proposed changes before it proceeds?

Yes 81 percent
No 19 percent

14. The I-405 Corridor Program Benefit-Cost Study has examined different alternative approaches to traffic and transportation improvements in this corridor. Which one of the following alternatives for I-405 most appeals to you?

Building one general-purpose lane in each direction, plus a four-lane limited-access (or express) roadway, which is calculated to save drivers a total of 44,523 hours of driving time by 2020 53 percent
Building two additional general-purpose lanes in each direction, which is calculated to save drivers a total of 36,943 hours of driving time by 2020 47 percent

Health care

15. How concerned are you about the rising cost of prescription drugs?

Very concerned 50 percent
Somewhat concerned 35 percent
Not concerned 15 percent

Elections

16. Washington's blanket primary system allows crossover voting, where a voter may select a Democrat in one race, a Republican in another race, and so on. What is your opinion of blanket primaries, which permit crossover voting?

I support it 79 percent
I oppose it 21 percent

17. Since the November elections were held, several concerns have been raised regarding Florida's voting system. In light of this, what is your opinion of Washington's voting system?

Washington's system is OK but could be improved 52 percent
I think Washington's system is good and doesn't need to be changed 44 percent
Washington's system is bad and needs to be reformed 4 percent

Energy

18. Do you support making it easier to build additional power-generating plants and/or hydroelectric dams to help meet our energy needs?

Yes 80 percent
No 20 percent